discover the pip marks in the corners. "The bird lied! Pass!"

"Pass!" in succession declared Reese Warland. Chief of Police Phil Ewing. Joe Ansell and Marvin, the New Yorker. "That causes me to look," said Bill

who had not picked up his cards, He slowly investigated his hand. The first two cards were kings. The next was a ten. The fourth was a

king.
"She's open for a matter of about five iron dollars," he declared gayly.
"Come on in, fellers! There are secret reasons why I need the money." Doctor Bannister's face indicated that he was pleased and desired to cosceal the fact, as he pushed in ten browns. Thus lifting it five and ausing all pikers to dash for safety. he observed.

"I've dashed!" said Warland.

promptly tossing his hand into the

discard. The chief of police studied his cards ruminatively. "It's a shame to let Doc run that kind of a whizzer," he remarked, "but I don't see how I'm going to stop it with three spades and two clubs and no pairs. Good night! I've gone!"

Ansell ditched his cards in disgusted lence.
Marvin, the New Yorker, pondered deeply, looked his hand over again with care, hesitated, and pushed forwith care, hesitated, and pushed for-ward ten dollars.

During this procedure, Bill glanced carelessly at his fifth card, which he had not seen when he opened. It was

"There is only one way to play two

"There is only one way to play two pairs," he remarked. "Heavy before the draw, and lay 'em down afterward if you don't better. I have a hunch about that betterin.' Hence this 1-e-e-tle raise of another ten."

Dr. Bannister saw the raise Marvan again considered his hand. The New Yorker, although a pretty good player, had been having poor luck, and was thirty or forty dollars loser. His face gave no clew to his thoughts, but his fingers seemed a little reluctant as he also contributed ten more brown chips.

ten more brown chips.

"All right!" said Bill cheerfully.

"Let's go! Cards and spades, if any."

Dr. Bannister said he would wish one card and if it wasn't the right one he would likely commit murder. Marin without hesitation also drew one-

"Let's see your openers, Bill, sugested Doctor Bannister. Titus spread his hand. "Golly, I'm "A king full!" cried the New his eyes popping. "Now, whunder didn't you raise me?

didn't you call, anyway?"
"I swear I don't know," confessed
Bill sheepishly. "I had a hunch. Lots
of times I play a hunch that-a-way. I
spose it's foolish, but I do it. Well
"He turned to Phil Ewing, who was banking. "Now that the Lawd has watched over the drunks, children,

and fools, I'll take these winnin's you dellers have so kindly donated and go home. Great singin' rattlesnakes, wasn't I lucky!"

Two days later, William Marvin called to see Capt. Titus during business hours at the National Bank.

He found Bill in the little president's room with nothing on his mind apparently but his thinning hair.

Marvin had been hanging around Summerton for three or four weeks He was a personable chap of about thirty-one or thirty-two, always well dressed, but not overdressed, with a manner and an ability to

When he arrived in Summerton. stating merely that he had come to Texas for a rest and to escape the rigors of the eastern spring, and that somebody in San Antonio had recomnended Summerton as a good place in which to rusticate, combining small-town quietness with an excellent draft with the national bank and thereby began an acquaintance with Capt. Titus, its president. A fort-night or so later, Bill happened to mention the king of American indoor orts, and learned that Marvin also

ancied the game. An invitation fol-owed to join a session of the coterie hat gathered in Reese Warland's parlor. Since then the easterner had been a fairly frequent and entirely considerably more than he had won quite obviously he could afford it.

New Yorker had rented an utomobile and driven pretty widely ut the country, and in other ways had shown an interest in south Texas. He often dropped in on Bill, at either bank or the real estate office. In the bank there seemed to be no business at all. The cashier was lolling in the window of his cage, trading "Five years".

unimportant small talk with a big-hatted farmer in high boots, whose utomobile, the tonneau filled with for his ranch, stood before the general store across the street. This lack of energy did not seem to disturb Capt. Titus, the bank's boss, In fact, he was the laziest-looking In fact, he was the laziest-looking occupant of the place. His door into the main room of the bank stood wide open. He had a bottom drawer of his rolltop desk open, and sat with his figure with speculative eyes. Slightly chair tipped back, his broad-brimmed raising his voice, he called to the eaked hat tipped forward almost to s nose, and his feet comfortably adjusted on the edge of the drawer.
"Not very busy today, Cap'n," th

New Yorker commented, as he took the chair toward which Bill waved him. ppraised Marvin's wandering glance through the door at the indolence of the outer room. "I expect this don't look to you as if it was a bank."

laughed shortly at thus hav-thoughts read. "I was think-presides. ing his thoughts read. "I was think-ing it looked a little different from the around Broadway and Wall," he "And I reckon there's quite some ifference between our bankin' and the way they do it up in New York,"

"Twenty-two cents is altogether too much. Why, for 14 I can lease cat-tle land six miles nearer Summer-

heavy tread?" "Why don't you?"
"It isn't as good a place for game. That shooting privilege is the principal thing that interests me."
"Well—you wasn't in any special hurry. was you?" says Vee. "But, then, one is liable to see all kinds here."

It's a fact. Any way, every time
I've been favored with an invite to
Dunmore Hall, which has been twice hurry, was you?"

"Why, I've had quite a vacation.
I'll be going back in a little while.
I ought to be back now."

"If you find you have to go before. I get hold of the rest of the heirs, I kin write you what they say. There won't be any more shootin' season till next October."

"Oh, I didnt mean I was thinking of leaving today or tomorrow. I expect to be here a week or so yet."

"That's fine. The boys will shore miss you when you're gone."

This was on Friday. On the follow
This was on Friday. On the follow
This was on Friday. On the follow
The boys will shore miss you when you're gone."

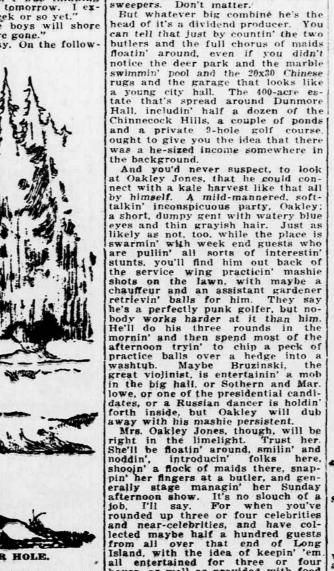
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This was on Friday on the follow
The boys will shore miss you when you're gone."



here, but, say, five or six thousand acres. I'd want it far enough from town, so it wouldn't cost too much lacky pup!" he grinned, still eying and so there would be plenty of game warvin's straight flush admiringly.

—birds, deer and javelins, you know —birds, deer and javelins, you know —and we would probably put some "Now, why in cattle on it. Then, in the season, my tise me? Why friends and I could come down here

for a while and shoot." "I reckon you could find something that would suit. We got more land around here than anything else." "I have found it-and that's one reason I've come to you. You are aren't vou?

"The bank is."
'And the Snell estate owns a pretty good-sized pasture down on the south edge of the county—eighteen or nineteen miles from here." Six thousand acres."

"I happened to ride through it a week ago. Looks good to me. Good grass for cattle. Water hole up at the west end of it. And game! You have to kick the quail out of your way. I think that would be just the "Well—I don't know. Miz Snell she's up in Dallas. She ain't lived here since Bill died. I'd have to get

in touch with her natchully. "About how much would it cost?"
"Why. I suppose about twelve or fifteen dollars an acre. That's about e value down there, bein so far om the railroad."
"Oh, I didn't intend to buy it. I'd

like to lease it.' which to rusticate, combining small-like to lease it."

town quietness with an excellent That's different. I don't know hotel, he deposited a small New York whether Miz Snell would want to." "Cattle land down that way for about ten cents an acre, doesn' "It does not. It brings nearer

"Oh, Cap'n! You know that's too "What sort of offer you want "Well, we might make it twelvea fairly frequent and entirely or thirteen. We aren't rich men, nial participant. If he had lost Cap'n. Just fairly well-to-do chaps.

We'd want a long lease, because there isn't any ranch house there, ing lodge, you know, where we could of thing. We'd have to spend quite a bit of money fixing the place up fencing needed, too.

"Oh, no. Ten, at least. Twenty "I'll tell you what I'll do, Mr. Marvin. I'll write Miz Snell this even Let you know as soon as I hear. Marvin rose and shook down the legs of his rather tight trousers. "Well, I'll be moving over to the hotel," he said. "It's most noon, and first come is best fed."

Capt. Bill followed his retreating combination clerk-stenographer who occupied a little room at the rear:
"Oh, Miss Annie! Bring your book,

Mfss Annie came.
"Letter to Mr. Vanderpool, New "Not exactly what you would call a York city. Address is in the files. astlin' hive of industry, and that's a Mark it personal."

Let," admitted Bill. He shrewdly The name of Thomas Vanderhoven Vanderpool is known on two conti-nents. Men of substance with offices in Wall street or lower Broadway are

said to lift their hats even when pass-ing the trust company over which he It hannens, however, that Mr. Vanphere of jealousy, hatred, fear and fawning adoration. Therefore, on

not overlooked openers; he had studied his hand too carefully for that. He drew one card; for a straight or flush necessarily, since otherwise he could have opened. He understood the game, he was betting into a pat hand—and his fingers were trembling.
"I never could see no use," Bill remarked cheerfully, 'in sendin' twenty-five perfectly good dollars after twenty-five perfectly good dollars after twenty-five bad ones. Hence and therefore, it is all yours, Mr. Marvin."

"Well, wouldn't that make you mad!" fumed the New Yorker, throwing his hand, face up, on the table. "Look at it! A straight flush! Five to nine of diamonds—got the seven right in the middle! And not a decent hand out against it!"

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"Look at it! A straight flush! Five to nine of diamonds—got the seven right in the middle! And not a decent hand out against it!"

"Look at it! A straight for tha

Bill folded this letter carefully, and

put it in his pocket, not trusting it to Miss Annie or the files. "Nick Vane, eh?" he mused. He sat a few minutes in thought and then walked forward to the cashier's desk. "I gotta go out of town two or three days," he said. "Things will run along all right, I guess." He strolled over to the office of his land and development company, and gave similar information to young Murphy, the clerk, salesman, and official welcomer of prospective purchasers. He took the evening train to San Antonio.

He did not remain in San Antonio, however, but crossed the city, boarded a southbound train at another station, and, by a roundabout route of railroad, automobile and horse, came upon the Snell pasture, twenty miles south of Summerton, from the farther side, He was alone and had with him fa-cilities for a brief period of camping. He set out methodically to ride slowly over every acre of the property.

Late in the day he stopped his horse at the border of the water hole, near the western boundary, and smiled his satisfaction. His search was ended. At one side of the little lake, sweeping out from hidden crevices, a greenish layer of oil floated on the surface of the water.

"So old Nick lows to do some wild-cattin'," Bill remarked aloud. "Marvin's been here a month; it must be at least six weeks since some scout discovered this. "Well, well! Buster," this last to his horse, "we'll get a drink up at the other end of this tank, away from that nasty green stuff, and then we'll call it a day and start for then we'll call it a day and start for ceeded in getting the president of the Western Prairie Oil Company by long-distance telephone at his office in New Orleans. That gentleman insist-

New Orleans. That gentleman insisted he wasn't at all interested in new Texas fields, and that he didn't plan to drill any more wells for a year or two anyway—but agreed that he would have an expert drop down into Stuart county quietly and look over the Snell pasture. In the course of the conversation Bill succeeded in letting him know, without actually saying so, that the Vane-Burroughs people were already interested.

Being bitter and uncompromising rivals in the same field, and their controlling owners being enemies to boot, the name of the Vane-Burroughs Company is as lurid a red rag to the bulls of the Western Prairie as the name of the Western Prairie as an exasperating annoyance to old Nicholas Vane and his predatory associates.

Rather well satisfied with himself, Bill took a train for Summerton, and was looking over the books of the sum to get that sum to get the sum to get the

Bill took a train for Summerton, and was looking over the books of the land company the following morning.

It is withdrawn. I durk truly. That's all, Miss Annie. I want to get that off tonight."

The two weeks had not elapsed

"Tourist season's goin' strong. San 'Ntonio's full of flubdubbery and diamonds. Peacock Alley, in the St. Francis, just after supper time, glisters like a salt mine time, glisters.

Bill to offer the estate 20, and Bill promised to straightway write all the Snells and also to see the judge of he probate court about it in hasten the transaction if the heirs should agree. That afternoon's mail brought a letter from the president of the Western Prairie Oil Company, reading:

in the society column? I'll tell the jury she is. It was her idea, you can

but I notice that he drives over every new and then. Maybe it's on account of the good billiard games he gets there, or it might be because Dun-more Hall is one of the few places where they still serve Scotch and soda just as reckless as if the eight-eenth amendment had been quashed. Anyway it ain't five minutes after

Anyway, it ain't five minutes after I'd remarked about the young lady with the swingin' stride when I drifted along where Mr. Robert was decantin' two fingers of the Haig

"Oh, I say!" says he. "Who do you suppose she is, Torchy?"
"Eh?" says I, followin' his stare.

or ten.
Then come home. Yours,

P. S.—Give the old thief my best regards. Tell him I worded it that

"Where is our young friend Marvin?"
I don't recollect seein' him today,"
asked Dr. Bannister as Reese War-land deftly dealt the second hand that

evening.
"Gone home," replied Bill, fdly

stacking his chips.
"Home!" exclaimed Ansell. "He might 'a' found time to come around

NICHOLAS VANE.

W. T. Titus, Esq., Summerton National Bank, Summerton, Tex.

Dear Sir: We have investigated the property regarding which the writer talked with you over the telephone a short time ago, and it is our geologist's opinion that the oil seepage does not necessarily indicate any great quantity of oil. In fact, the geological formation of the land does not encourage much expenditure for experimental develop-

ment.

However, if you would like us to undertake the drilling of one or perhaps two test wells, we will make a lease upon the customary terms of continuous development if the production of the experimental wells should warrant it, and one-eighth royalty to you. This is our best offer. If you do not care to consider it, further discussion would be a waste of your time and mine. We shall pay no bonus for the lease.

"Bring your book, please, Miss Annie!" called Bill, after he had read this letter three times and sat immersed

letter three times and sat immersed in thought for a quarter of an hour. "Letter to Nicholas Vane, Vane-Bur-

Dear Sir: Relative to your investi-Dear Sir: Relative to your investigations regarding prices, et cetera, of lease of the water hole, near the western boundary, and smiled his satisfaction. His search was ended. At one side of the little lake, sweeping out from hidden crevices, a greenish layer of oil floated on the surface of the water.

"So old Nick 'lows to do some wild-cattin," Bill remarked aloud. "Marving been here a month; it must be cattered by the principal direct in any transaction. "Change that, Miss Annie, to 'direct with the principal.' All right? "Geologists of the Western Prairie Oil Company, who have examined the

Oil Company, who have examined the property since your examination was made, have made us a fairly satisfactory offer for the lease; but, all things being equal, I should be glad to do business with you, not only because of my high regard for yourself, but be-cause I and others here in Mendon have

cause I and others here in Mendon have a sincere liking for your son-in-law-to-be.' Is that 'son-in-law-to-be' the right way to put it, Miss Annie?"

"I don't know."

"Neither do I. Cut it out! Make it 'sincere liking for young Mr. Marvin.' Here we go again!

"I hereby make you a firm offer of the Snell basture, six thousand.

was looking over the books of the land company the following morning, when Marvin dropped in.

"Missed you the last few days," he remarked, as he accelled a cigar and made himself comfortable. "How's the metropolis?"

"Tourist season's goin' strong. San "Tourist season's goin' strong. San "Tourist season's goin' strong." reason, as Capt. Titus informed him from time to time, that the Snell heirs were mighty slow in attending to their correspondence, received a let-ter from New York that caused him

francis, just after supper time, glistens like a salt mine. Me, I don't like so big a town. I'm always glad to get my business done and get back here, where I can eat in my shirt sleeves if I want to."

"Speaking of getting business done, has any reply come yet from Mrs. Snell?"

"Yes. I found it waitin' for me this mawnin'. Miz Snell she don't know just what she wants to do. She wants me to advise her. What are you really plannin' to do with that property?"

"Why, just what I told you—put some cattle on it and build a hunting lodge."

"Fifteen-dollar land is pretty valuable for cattle."

Bill stared at Marvin, speculatively, of the time and transplant in the correspondence, received a letter caused him ter from New York that caused him ter from New Yorkers, their caused him ter from New York that caused him ter from New Yorkers, their caused him ter from New Yorkers, their caused him ter from New Yorkers, their caused him ter from New York that caused him ter from New Yorkers, their caused him all. Most other men have business to interest 'em, but one of these here here them, but one of these here have the gnarly signature of the New Yorkers, when he gets down no interest 'em, but one of these here have the gnarly signature of the New Yorkers, when he gets down no interest 'em, but one of these here have the gnarly signature of the New Yorkers, when he less down the here, kain't get interested in business because we don't do it right. Slow we are, and countrified. Our banks is just between the submerter, waiting the per down submerter. That's it! Our finance is primitive. No, that ain't picked we "I their caused him ter from Mrs. have the found in the submerter of the per down submerte

Elementary Finance

A Capt. Bill Titus Story By J. Frank Davis.

A BRAVE man may win battles conceded Bill. "We countrymen, retarles have been informing anxious, and accoward may save his would look pretty slow if we got to shad and a coward may save his would look pretty slow if we got to shad and a coward may save his would look pretty slow if we got to shad and a coward may save his would look pretty slow if we got to shad and in the state fellows, and an opponent is the beginning an opponent is the beginning and the state of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression for the manufacture of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression for the manufacture of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression for the manufacture of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the expression of the sale of New York and the express



of them—about Corrinne, the cow girl?"

She chuckles and taps him playful on the arm. "What a terribly complicated joke!" says she. "Just for that I shall commission you to follow this mysterious young person, find out all about her, and tell me the whole story."

"You really wish to know?" asks Mr. Robert.

She says she does. "Within the last hour," goes on Mrs. Jones. "I wonderful home like this shour," goes on Mrs. Jones. "I have run across her in a dozen different places in the house and about the grounds. And always with those curious blue eyes eagerly looking about, almost as though she had lost something. Several times I have tried to speak to her, but she has looked right I found out where Dummore Hall was the limps toward the house.

of them—about Corrinne, the cow girl?"

"Must have missed 'em," says I.

"But you wasn't looking for that wild and woelly stuff here, were you?"

"I'm bringing Corrinne east, you see," says Mrs. Jones. "I just know he would be thrilled to see you ride like that, Miss Blodgett. He must see it, too. Somebody go find him, please, and tell him to come right among the—the idle rich."

"Eh?" says I. "The idle rich."

"Eh?" says I. "The idle rich."

"Eh?" says I. "The sort that say and do such weird and eccentric and—and naughty things. Of course, thing. Several times I have tried to speak to her, but she has looked right I found out where Dummore Hall was she limps toward the house. bet, of buyin' an English country house, havin' it taken apart and shipped over here to be set upon the top of this Long Island hill. And if there's anything outside of England that's more English than Dunmore Hall I'd like to see it. Why, they last hour." even celebrate Whitsunday and Guy Fawkes day on the Jones estate, and have a cricket field for the help. I have heard that Oakley balks at drinking tea for breakfast, but I understand it's always ready in case

he should change his mind.

Also these Sunday afternoon affairs are patterned after something Mrs. Oakley Jones got hep to while she was visitin at some English country house, only she has to sub. in country nouse, only she has to sub. in opera singers and such for the prime minister and secretary for foreign affairs. But they're unique of their kind and in one way or other she setters droppin' in.

Course, the way Vee and me hap-pen to get counted in is through the Robert Ellinses, who have sort of a blanket invitation to bring along any of their friends. Mr. Robert lets on to find these affairs sort of boresome, but I notice that he drives over every

breaks in Mrs. Jones, "should be unty you—"
"So it is," comes back Mr. Robert.
"That is why I am delegating my talented private secretary to go, observed and report. I am willing to stake my reputation, and his, that within an hour you will have full information. Eh, Torchy?"

Course, there's nothing for me to do but grin and register modesty. Also to trail off affer the unknown ash blond. I wouldn't say, though, that this is the sort of sleuthin' I'm any star at. Not that I'm skirt shy, but some some to the folks from there, though. Know Jack Lyons, do you?"

"No," says she. "And probably I wouldn't know any of the people there that you might have met. You see. Dad's a.—a labor union official He's an organizer."

"Oh!" says I. "Pulls off strikes, eth?"
"Oh!" says Lucille. "He goes around and makes speeches to the miners."
"Sometimes," says Lucille. "He goes around and makes speeches to the miners."

"Sometimes," says Lucille. "He goes around and makes speeches to the miners."
"I wouldn't wouldn't say, though, that this is the sort of sleuthin' I'm any this is the sort of sleuthi

drifted along where Mr. Robert was decantin' two fingers of the Haig Brothers' celebrated brew into a tall glass. Having completed the operation, and added a little more for good luck, he's about to press the syphon star at. Not that I'm skirt shy, but it's kind of a delicate piece of work hailin' a young lady guest at a week he's read," says she. "Neither do I. end party and askin' her who and what. It's so easy for 'em to counter with a "Well, what's that to you?" little time. I wish I didn't have to be However, I drifts down where she is wanderin' kind of aimless around "It might be fixed," says I. "That poker like he can is no man for me the crowd that's watchin' the mixed to see that the crowd that's watchin' the mixed the crowd that's watchin' the mixed the crowd that's watchin' the mixed the crowd that's watchin' the crowd that's watc

Meantime thank the Lord he disk us up thing.
take it into his head to stick us up thing.
"Huh!" thinks I. "Might be stray dressmaker, or maybe a woman re-porter collectin' society notes."

That last hunch seems to be worth That last hunch seems to followin'. Anyway, it was time I made some sort of break, so Ledges in casual until I'm almost at her el-bow and then remarks off-hand: in casual until I'm almost at her el-bow and then remarks off-hand: of the sort," says I. "You stick "Could I help you any with the names of some of 'em, miss?"

Campaign in Tennessee

"I—I beg pardon?" says she, after a nervous little jump.
"Oh, I used to be in the newspaper game myself," says I, "Doing society stuff, ain't you?"
"Not not exactly." says the "Test of the newspaper game are myself," says I, "Doing society stuff, ain't you?" "Not-not exactly," says she. "I'm might 'a' found time to come and a not a reporter."

not a reporter."

"Oh." says I. "My error. But I saw ed up a little matter he come down for, and then he taken a notion to get right out. I don't know's I blame him at that. He'd hear hand the same he clean you taking notes, didn't 1?"

"No, no!" says she, starin' at me panicky. "At least, not the kind you mean. Really I wasn't"

> "Let's see, says I, the I get's you name right when you came?"
> "Lucille Blodgett," says she.
> "Blodgett?" says I, shakin' my head.
> "Sorry, miss, but it ain't on the list."
> That was a bit raw, I'll admit, but it seems to work. She glances around nervous, to see if anybody's near, and then she grabs my arm. then she grabs my arm.
> "Please!" says she. "I'll go right "Please!" says she. "I'll away if—if it's necessary." "What makes you think it might

be?" I asks. "Why, says she, "you—you're a detective, aren't you?" "Not so bad as that," says I. "Only she'd picked out a quirt and a raw-lcampaign is not apprent.

'Oh!" says she, twistin' her fingers hide rope that suited her. And while

W.

miners."

'About the idle rich?" I asks.
Lucille nods. "He really doesn't know much about them. except what he's read," says she. "Neither do I. That's why I wanted to see for myself. And I've been here only such a little time. I wish I didn't have to be sent away now."

"It might be fixed," says I. "That is, if you'd do your part."

"My part?" she echoes.

I turns her over to a maid, "I haven't seem much as yet, but it seems to me that these people are rather an active lot. I don't suppose they keep it up all the time, do they?"

"Mostly," says I. "I've known 'em to play golf and tennis and motor and swim and so on all day, and dance and play bridge more'n half the night and get up and go at it again next mornin' every day for a week."

"I'm sure I couldn't stand that long."

and execute mineral lease in your own name for the Snell pasture, on the terms he has named—two wells the first six months, at least one per annum thereafter, and one-eighth royalty—and hand him draft on me for five thousand dollars for bonus. Meantime thank the Lord he didn't take it into his head to stick us up that I noticed her fish out a little trick rope throwing that I learned summers up at Cody."

"Why," says she, "nothing but bron-cho riding and a little trick rope throwing that I learned summers up at Cody."

"Wild West acts?" says I. "Fine! Say, Lucille, I think we can use you right in with these idle richers. Are you game?"

"I've traveled nearly two thousand miles for that particular purpose," says she. "I'll do anything you say that's reasonable. I haven't a rope, though, nor any sort of riding cos Oakley Jones."

So it ain't half an hour before I'm hunting up the lady with a full re-

"Really!" says Mrs. Oakley Jones. "Really!" says Mrs. Oakley Jones.
"A lady novelist who means to robbert-chambers us? How utterly delightful! And you have bullied her
into performing? You inspired young
person! Of course we can fit her out.
My dear brother once made a collection of combot things coddles borse. ed up a little matter he come down for, and then he taken a notion to get right out. I don't know's I blame him at that. He'd been here quite some time, and these young New York fellers they natchally get homesick, bein' away from the bright lights and all. Most other men have business to interest 'em, but one of these here New Yorkers, when he gets down here, kain't get interested in business there, kain't get interested in business but it suit on the list."

"You taking says she, starin' at me panicky. "At least, not the kind you man, Really, I wasn't."

"No, no!" says she, starin' at me panicky. "At least, not the kind you man, Really, I wasn't."

So you see I had her goin', almost from the start. After that it was simple. Merely a case of stringin' poor boy. And there are two or three bronches around the place somewhere. When the gets down on the golf course would be a good place for the event, wouldn't it? I will announce it for half an hour feller."

So you see I had her goin', almost from the start. After that it was simple. Merely a case of stringin' poor boy. And there are two or three bronches around the place somewhere. The assistant superintendent rides, them. Bring on your Miss Blodgett. Down on the golf course would be a good place for the event, wouldn't it? I will announce it for half an hour.

"Blodgett?" says I, shakin' my head. "Blodgett?"

almost as though she nad lost something. Several times I have tried to speak to her, but she has looked right through and past me. Not that I think she meant to be rude, but she seemed so absorbed in just gazing around that she didn't see me. I've not seen her speaking to any one of seen her speaking to any one else though, so I can't feel slighted.

I didn't know any such persons, but I had heard of Mrs. Oakley Jones, and I found out where Dunmore Hall was, an so I—I came. I had read about such people being guarded by detectives, but I thought if I just held my head up and was bold enough they what it means." says she, "when I tell you I haven't been on a horse before for more than a year."

"Well, you made a hit anyway."

else, though, so I can't feel slighted. And if she doesn't know any one here it is high time she did. At least, she ought to know me. See, there she is now; down there watching the tennis. Do go and discover her, Robert. Flirt with her, if you like."

"Now, that's what I call generous," says Mr. Robert. "and if I had not just promised Teddy Royce that I would follow him to the billiard room—"

"But the request of your hostess," breaks in Mrs. Jones, "should be unto you—"

"So it is," comes back Mr. Robert.
"So "says the "And probably I wouldn't notice me. I hadn't thought about there being a private secretary. "Well, you made a hit anyway," says I, "and you'll have all night to rest up in. You're a reg'lar guest now, you know. But here's Mrs. Oak-ley Jones coming after us. Wonder what she wants now?"

She told us right away. "Oh, Miss Blodgett." says she. "Would you try to put me in jail?"

"Which is nearer?" says I, grinnin, "Why," says she, "I live in Sioux. City."
"Some ways off, isn't it?" says I.
"I've met folks from there, though. Know Jack Lyons, do you?"

"I've met folks from there, though. Know Jack Lyons, do you?"

"I've met folks from there, though. Know Jack Lyons, do you?"

"Nouldn't notice me. I hadn't thought about there being a private secretary. "Well, you made a hit anyway," "well, you made a hit anyway."

"Well, any you'll put me in now."

says I, "and you'll put me in now."

says I, "an

"I'm sure I couldn't stand that long," says Lucille. "Nor could the average working girl. She'd be a wreck. But working girl. She'd be a wreck. But these women and girls all look so fresh and fit. The men, too. And yet they call them the idle rich!" "Oh, they put a lot of bunk in them society novels," says I. "Chiefly, I expect, because they write from guesswork. But you'll be able to give us the true dope in yours, eh?"

I'm waitin' to see that book. But my guess is that Chapter I won't be started for a few days yet. Not until she can find a desk she can stand up to.

WILL OPEN THIS WEEK

NASHVILLE, Tenn., September 25 (Special).-The coming week will witness the opening of the state campaign by both parties. Gov. A. H. Roberts, democrat, will open the campaign for re-election at Madisonville, in Monroe county, at noon on Wednes-

good place for the event, wouldn't it?
I will announce it for half an hour from now and have an audience ready. If she can do anything worth while I shall ask her to stay until Monday with us."

She's some hustler. Mrs. Oakley Jones is. Almost before Lucille Blodgett had time to make half a dozen more notes she was being towed to a about five weeks distant, general income where a couple of maids helped terest in either the state or national room where a couple of maids helped lerest in either the state or national her shed her Sioux City costume and campaign is not evident. What effect climb into a fringed buckskin shirt, the recent extra session suffrage enriding breeches and woolly chaps, and tanglement will have upon the state W. E. BEARD.